

# THE OREGON MIST.

VOL. XVIII.

ST. HELENS, OREGON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1901

NO. 50.

## AUNT HANNAH'S SECRET.

CHAPTER IX.

It was midday when the detective entered the door of his home after the inquest was over.

There was a thoughtful look on his face, and it was necessary for his wife to address him twice before he answered her.

"The jury of inquest, Lang? Why don't you answer me? Did they hold Robert Campbell for trial?"

"Yes! I will be ready in a moment, Martha—in a moment. Has Calban returned? I gave him a commission."

"The decision of the jury of inquest, Lang? Did they hold Robert Campbell for trial? You are dreaming again."

"Oh! Yes, certainly, wife; they held him for trial."

"Poor Mrs. Campbell. Poor daughter, and poor Robert. I don't believe he is guilty, Lang."

"Time will tell, wife."

"I know you don't think so. You are not satisfied. You have another mystery on your hands. I can tell when you are puzzled."

"Where is Willie, wife?"

"There he comes in at the gate now. Since I put him on him I can't keep him in the house."

"Come here, you rascal!" cried Lang, as he threw open the door, and in a moment more he was tossing the urchin up to the ceiling.

"I goin' do that, papa," he said, when his father placed him on the floor.

"Do what, son?"

"Toss up the kids when I get to be a great big detective."

"Kids? What are kids, Willie?"

"Why, the boys—I'm a kid."

"Better put the dress back on him again, wife. We don't want any kids in our family."

"Then I won't be a kid, papa."

"That's right, son—never be a kid. But Calban, wife; has he returned?"

"He was in the kitchen scolding up our revolvers a few minutes ago. He had quite an arsenal there. But come, let Calban go until after dinner. It is on the table now."

"As you say, wife. You are the ruler of this domain."

After dinner was over, Lang returned to his office, filled his long-stemmed pipe, lighted it, and seated himself at his desk.

"Let's see," he muttered. "To-day is the nineteenth of August. Court convenes the fifteenth of September—less than a month. Well, there is plenty of time, or should be, and then, the case is not apt to be called at once, Calban! Calban!"

"Here I am, Mrs. Lang!" exclaimed the negro, as he entered the room, a bundle under his arm.

"Well, did you find an opportunity to go through the barn while the inquest was going on?"

"Adam was at de house watchin' de jury, and Ben, de stable boy, was in de kitchen. I reckon I went 'round dat barn, from de sils up, Mrs. Lang. What you tink I find?"

"I can't tell, Calban; but if there was anything there of a suspicious nature, you would be sure to find it, I know."

"Golly, Mrs. Lang, I got a clue! Look here!"

With a quick movement Calban tore away the paper covering from the package he had held under his arm.

"A bloody shirt!" he exclaimed, as he held the garment up before the detective.

"And a bloody shirt, at that," said Lang, taking the garment from the flat top of his desk. "Yes," he continued, "Blood, surely, both on the right sleeve and the shirt bosom. That on the bosom the wearer tried to wipe off, and as a result spread it over a greater surface. A bloody shirt. You found it in the barn?"

"Yes, Mrs. Lang—in a barrel in de harness room."

"A suspicious circumstance at this time. Why, there are spots all over the bosom, as if they had squirted there from some jet of blood suddenly turned loose. In a barrel in the harness room, you say? Was the barrel covered, the shirt secured?"

"A set of harness was hanging over de harness, and some empty grain sacks was on top of it. I moved de grain sacks, and found dat shirt on top of a lot of old curryscombs and brushes. I took de shirt, and kivered up de barrel. I 'speck it's Adam's shirt."

"De Ben's," observed the detective.

"Golly, 'tain't Ben's, Mrs. Lang. Dat shirt too big for Ben."

"But it is not one of Adam's driving shirts. The banker would not have allowed him to mount the box of his carriage with that shirt on."

"I allow, Mrs. dat dat shirt is one of his wokin' shirts, what he wears 'bout de harness—dat's what I calculate."

"You may be right, Calban. At any rate, this blood, in places, is hardly dry. It has not been many hours since it came from the veins of living man or beast. You have found a clue, Calban! A clue! Had you talked with Adam before the inquest commenced?"

"Yes, Mrs. Lang, and Adam worried mightily. He say he los de ben's master a nigger eber had, and he 'test himself mightily 'bout dat anybody kill him."

"Did you learn where he claimed to be at the time the murder must have been committed?"

"Adam countin' a nigger gal what he los to Dr. Freeman, on Front street; he his cook. I 'speck dat's why Adam courtin' her—nigger might fond suitin' good to eat. Well, Adam, dat he der, in Dr. Freeman's kitchen till ten o'clock. Den he 'lows he went home, and went to sleep in de barn, and de fust time he knowed nex was when he year Une Duke callin' of him. Dat's what he claim."

"Did you ever hear Adam make any remarks about Herman Craven?"

"Dun know nuthin' 'bout de nigger, Mrs. Lang. He say dis mornin' Mrs. Herman might oberboardin', and he 'speck he done eat he sweet bread, now he 'speck master dead. Nigger might 'calfus sometimes."

"White men as well, Calban."

"He may have been a plant tool in the hands of Herman Craven, but even un-

chickens what I kill fer Aunt Hannah. Dar de stick of cord wood now, right back of de kitchen, whar I cut dar heads off. Dar was three of dem. One was a rooster, and shes you born, Mrs. Lang, when I clip his head, de casual flow right agin me, here, and de blood squirt all ober my shut. Hannah say she could kill chicken better dan dat, when I han dem to her. Dat's what make me put dat shut in de barrel, kase 'twas a clean shut dat mornin'.

"Lord, how you skew me, Mrs. Lang! I can scarcely stand up. Fer de Lawd's sake, what you gwine do wid dem 'volvers and dem order finger? De Lawd hab mercy on Adam! You got a rope, too?"

Down on his knees sank the negro with a groan.

"There, there! Get up, Adam, get up," cried Sellers, who saw how far from having a clue to the banker's murder he was.

"What did I tell you, Calban?" he said, turning to that individual. "I know I could frighten him out of his wits. Get up, Adam, I only wished to show Calban that you were not as brave as he thought you. He has been boasting that if you had slept in the house you would have fought for your master's life."

"—It a fit fit! I died, Mrs. Lang," sobbed the negro, giving a deep sigh of relief as he arose to his feet; "but whar you get dat shut?"

"Oh, I had to have that to carry out my plan. It was easy to obtain it—I know they had chickens for dinner at your master's yesterday."

"Fer de Lawd's sake!"

"Yes, and I know you were courtin' Cindy Freeman, and spent de evening of de night of de murder with her in Dr. Freeman's kitchen!"

"Lawd! I was got any ting agin dat, Mrs. Lang?"

"Nothing, Adam, nothing. And now, mind you, not a word to a living soul that you have been here; not a word of what has passed."

"Not one, Mrs. Lang. But did you suspicion shu' dat I kill ole massa?"

"Pshaw, have better sense, Adam. Was not Robert Campbell held for the murder, and is he not now in jail?"

"Yes, Mrs. Lang, he is; but I don't believe dey has got de right man."

"Whom do your suspicious rest on, Adam?"

"I ain't got none, Mrs. Lang—I dunno."

"Who have you had occasion to drive about town the ofttest in the carriage after dark during the past year, Adam?"

"Why, Mrs. Herman," said the negro, looking uneasily toward the door. "Ole massa was never out nights, dat is, scarcely."

"So you have driven Herman Craven out nights?"

"Yes, Mrs. Lang, often. Sometimes, moonlight nights, to de sound, where a lot of young gessmies would go fer a frolic, and sometimes 'bout town. Often he keep me standin' wid de carriage till midnight."

"Where, Adam?"

"Well, if you believe me, Mrs. Lang, mass everywhere. But whar my team is standin', he ain't dar. He just tell me to wait dar."

"Where does he go?"

"Mrs. Herman not lak a nigger much, no how, and I skeered to say much 'bout him. I was always skeered he'd awake ole massa to sell me; he said he could."

"He did, did he? Well, your master is dead. You are not Herman's property, and never will be. Your mistress will not sell you, and I promise to be your friend. Now, have no fear."

"Tank de Lawd! Well, he goes a heap ole places a young gessmies sought not to go, Mrs. Lang; but de place he goes de ofttest to is whar dey call de 'Planters Rest' down on Water street. Dey says dar gambin' goin' on dar, upstair—what dey calls 'rowlie' and 'fario' and 'poker'."

"Yes, yes, I know the place. So he often has been there until midnight? When was he there last?"

"De las I knows of was 'bout a week ago. You know, he don't always take de carriage downtown."

"Does he take those young bloods out with him in the carriage, occasionally?"

"Why, he hab it full sometimes, when dey goes to de sound, and dey generally has a case or two ob brandy and wine, and has awful times."

"Are there any that he is especially friendly with?"

"He friendly wid all on em, Mrs. Lang—all dat set. I spect Ward Taylor was one of his chums till you trail him down fer de Mulberry murder."

"Indeed! Has he ever brought any of these parties to the house?"

"No, Mrs. Lang, he dasent do dat, fer fear ob de master."

"You are sure that you have never seen one of them in your master's house?"

"Certain, Mrs. Lang! Certain!"

(To be continued.)

HOMESPUN PHILOSOPHY.

Observations of Commonplace Things, by the Author, Globe Max.

All pretty women, and all handsome men, are a little foolish.

A successful man can't realize how hard an unsuccessful man finds life.

Some men who have more money than brains, haven't much money, either.

The man who sells whiskey, makes his money easier than the man who buys it.

However truthful a boy, he dislikes to tell the exact facts about a hunting or fishing trip.

Win \$10 on an election and the public will give you credit for winning ten times that amount.

Every wedding is the prettiest of the season, and every bride's wedding out in it the most elaborate.

When a child says "Thank you" without being reminded, its mother feels very puffed up and proud.

"Outfit" means the same as "troseau," and people can't call you down on the way you spell or pronounce it.

The women have such an accumulation of mud on their skirts that it sounds as if they wore silk petticoats.

No man who is a genius finds it necessary to advertise himself by wearing long bushy hair, or dressing like a freak.

The only gift is a portion of thyself. Therefore the poet brings his poem, the shepherd his lamb, the farmer corn, the miner a gem, the sailor coral, and the girl a handkerchief of her own sewing.—Emerson.

In certain parts of Spain the witness crosses the thumb of one hand over the forefinger of the other and kisses the symbol of the cross before being sworn.

## EVENTS OF THE DAY

### FROM THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE WORLD.

A Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Presented in a Condensed Form Which is Most Likely to Prove of Interest to Our Many Readers.

Strike of railroad switchmen is ordered at Pittsburg.

Shakir Pasha has been appointed governor of Sourah, Asia Minor.

Marquis Ito, the Japanese statesman, has arrived at St. Petersburg.

William Gwin, for 30 years chief messenger to the secretary of state, is dead.

Home Rule Republican party of Hawaii wants Chinese exclusion laws re-enacted.

Three masked men entered a gambling resort at Chickasaw, I. T., and carried off \$700.

Half a million people in the Yangtze valley, China, will starve unless they receive aid.

The monetary loss from the recent gale on the Atlantic is greater than at first supposed.

Traffic on the Panama railway was stopped, but marines from the Iowa soon re-established it.

North Weymouth, Mass., was visited by a disastrous fire which will throw many men out of employment for a time.

Johnston, Miss., has been practically destroyed by fire. Fourteen stores and six residences were burned. Loss, \$75,000.

According to a dispatch to the London Standard from Odessa, 130 persons perished in recent earthquakes at Errasoum.

Secretary Hay has just received from an unknown person, through the collector of customs at New York, a conscience contribution of \$18,668.

Americans captured a rebel camp in Bohol island.

Sousa's band is playing to overflowing audiences in London.

Fire destroyed the Crawfordsville, Ind., wire and nail plant. Loss, \$150,000.

Lord Salisbury is said to be aging rapidly, and displays little interest in public affairs.

Bobbers blew open the Bollersville, O., postoffice safe, and secured \$300 worth of stamps and \$50.

Pittsburg, Pa., switchmen have made a demand for higher wages and will go on strike if refused.

The bodies of the eight mining officials were recovered from the Baby mine in West Virginia.

Two men have been arrested and confessed to the murder of young Morrow, which occurred in Portland.

On the suggestion of Germany and Russia, there has been an international exchange of views regarding the surveillance of anarchists.

The steamer Alerta, with 200 passengers, some of them discharged soldiers, is believed to have been lost while en route from Subig bay to Manila.

Pretoria reports many more captures of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony. In the southeastern district of the Transvaal, the British troops are dealing with isolated parties of Boers.

Turkey is in bad financial straits. Agninaldo wants to plead his cause before congress.

Queen Draga, of Serbia, is said to have been shot at.

Fire at a Colorado mine caused the loss of probably 100 lives.

Canada will raise a mounted corps for the South African war.

Colombian Liberals captured Colon after three hours of fighting.

Marines in Samar scaled a cliff 200 feet high and destroyed three insurgent camps, killing 30 rebels.

In his coming message the president will recommend the re-enactment and strengthening of the Chinese exclusion law.

The union iron molders of San Francisco will return to work on a nine hour basis with an increase of 2 1/2 cents per hour in wages.

Green goods men have been selling postmasters of small towns stamps from "understuffed plates of the government." The secret service is doing its best to capture the bunco men.

Two fast trains on the Santa Fe crashed into each other near the Needles, Cal., resulting in the death of two and the fatal injuring of several. Quite a number were less seriously hurt.

Student riots have occurred in Spanish towns.

A fund is being raised in Manila to prevent the execution of Torres.

The people of the South think that as soon as they can have faster steamers and more of them they can keep all their cotton mills working full time making cloth for export.

Dr. Bosario, of Gorz, has published a pamphlet in which he tries to prove that the Adriatic has for more than a thousand years been rising and encroaching on its shores. The lower parts of Trieste are experiencing trouble already, and in course of time Venice will be buried in the mud of the lagoon.



IDAHO'S LOG CABIN PRINTING OFFICE.

Idaho has a printing office—and a good one—that is still maintained in the old log cabin built over 20 years ago. The Wood River Times, daily and weekly, at Hailey, occupies this odd building and everything about it is comfortable and convenient. Additions to the building have been made as needed, partly of logs and partly of modern building material. T. E. Picotte has owned and published The Times since the first issue, June 15, 1881. When the daily was started, May 22, 1882, Associated Press dispatches were received by wire at Blackfoot and then sent 175 miles by stage to Hailey. It was the first daily published in Idaho. The office floor in the log cabin was for a time the virgin soil. Then flooring was hauled in 160 miles, costing \$125 per thousand feet. Mr. Picotte has been identified with daily papers in New York City, Chicago and several other large cities, always in important and successful positions. With a single exception he has always declined political offices, because he feels that a newspaper man should devote all his time to his profession. The log cabin printing office attracts all visitors to the Wood river country and Editor Picotte may well be proud of his building, his plant and his two newspapers.

## RAILROAD MEN STRIKE.

Order Made Affecting Switchmen of Seven Lines at Pittsburg.

Pittsburg, Nov. 27.—The switchmen on seven railroads of Pittsburg have decided to strike at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning. At a meeting of the Brotherhood of Switchmen tonight which was attended by about 600 members, this action was decided upon, and the result of this meeting can only be conjectured. In anticipation of possible trouble it is learned that the Pennsylvania Railroad has made an application to the city for 60 officers to be on hand in the Union station yards at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning, and in the Baltimore & Ohio yards fully 100 Pinkerton men are on duty tonight.

The claim made at the switchmen's meeting tonight was that 700 to 1,000 men would obey the strike order in the morning. The estimate was that in the Union station yards of the Pennsylvania Railroad 138 men would go out; that the yards at Pittsburg and Wall would go out in the same proportion; that the Baltimore & Ohio and the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie yards would go out solidly and that the Monongahela, the Pittsburgh, Virginia & Charleston, the Shenandoah Terminal and the Pittsburgh and Western would be practically without men. It was also said that the Fort Wayne and Panhandle men would lend a helping hand.

The demand of the men is that the Chicago rate be paid here. This rate is 27 cents per hour for day conductors and 20 cents for night conductors of switch engines; helpers, 25 cents day and 27 cents night. The Pittsburg rate at present is 25 cents for day and 26 for night conductors; 19 cents day and 20 cents night for helpers.

Grand Master Hawley, of the Switchmen's Union, is expected here tomorrow to conduct the strike.

Treasure-Ship Making Good Time.

New York, Nov. 27.—The North German Lloyd steamship Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, which left New York last week carrying over \$7,000,000 worth of gold bullion for London, Paris and Berlin, was reported by cable passing the Scilly Islands this morning. The treasure ship has made good time.

Chile's First Iron Steamer.

Santiago de Chile, Nov. 27.—The launch of the first iron steamer constructed in Chile occurred at Valparaiso today, and was a great success. The ceremony was attended by the president, the federal authorities, and a large assemblage of the people. The entire ship, from keel to truck, was constructed in this country.

French Chinese Indemnity Loan.

Paris, Nov. 27.—The chamber of deputies today, by a vote of 265 to 249, adopted the sum of 265,000,000 francs for the Chinese indemnity loan, rejecting the smaller sum proposed. It was declared, during the course of the discussion, that the government would make no distinction between those who were entitled to indemnities, but would pursue in the far East France's traditional policy and fulfill all the duties of its protectorate, just as it claimed all its rights.

Bought San Juan Battlefield.

Santiago de Cuba, Nov. 27.—During his recent visit General Wood bought for the government the principal portion of the San Juan battlefield, including the San Juan hill, the site of the blockhouse and Bloody Bend. The tract covers 200 acres and cost \$15,000. It will be considered a United States reservation and the government intends to lay out a beautiful park on the old battlefield.

Grave Fears for German Vessel.

Long Branch, N. J., Nov. 26.—Storm tossed and lying broadside at anchor in a heavy sea, the German ship Flothek, from Plymouth for New York, was laboring hard against all odds, to save herself from being beached at a late hour tonight, about one-third of a mile off shore, between North Long Branch and Monmouth beach. Grave fears are entertained by the life saving station officers at Monmouth beach.

Was Made Under Instructions From the State Department.

Washington, Nov. 25.—Minister Conger's action in protesting to the Chinese government against the arbitrary cancellation of a railway franchise, granted to an American company, and its transfer to a French corporation, was taken upon representations made to the state department by the American-China Improvement Company, which has a franchise to construct a railroad from Canton to Hankow. It is understood that forfeiture of the claim was based on two counts: First, that the road was not completed within the stipulated period of time; and second, that the American corporation had passed to the Belgians.

The state department holds that the conditions in China for the past year and a half have been such as to make it impossible for the American company to have completed its work; and that for this delay the Chinese government itself is responsible. In the second count the fact that the road maintains its American charter makes it incumbent upon our government, following its rule, to defend the franchise.

A BANKRUPT GOVERNMENT.

Turkey is Without Funds and Unable to Borrow.—Troops Are Unpaid.

Constantinople, Nov. 26.—Never has the Turkish government been in such financial straits as at the present time. It is impossible to see how the expenses of the Ramadan and Bairam, due in December and January and involving \$360,000, can be met. The Ottoman bank utterly refuses to make any more advances and the penalty is so acute that even the troops in many provinces are unpaid. The consequence is that there have been mutinies in several districts. Hostile demonstrations here recently have only been quieted by the authorities hastily scraping together a few thousand piastres as something on account.

Athletic Club Swindle.

Fort Scott, Kan., Nov. 26.—The federal grand jury has indicted five of the principal men of the Webb City, Mo., Athletic Club in connection with recent heavy losses of money at the club's foot racing track. It is asserted by the officers that the members of the club do not deny having won, in the last 18 months, upward of \$200,000. The winnings last week are known to have been \$27,000, notwithstanding the publicity resulting from the prosecution instituted by Representative J. M. Davis, of this county, who lost \$5,000 there and says he was swindled out of it.

The Charleston Exposition.

Charleston, S. C., Nov. 26.—The opening of the South Carolina Interstate and West Indian exposition is only six days off and all the builders and exhibitors are on the rush. The United States marine corps has gone into camp on the exposition grounds for the entire exposition period. Many of the best exhibits have already arrived, and the interiors of the buildings are being beautified by rich decorations. The merchants and manufacturers of this city will make the opening day a public holiday.

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## NEWS OF THE STATE

### ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF OREGON.

Commercial and Financial Happenings of Importance—A Brief Review of the Growth and Improvements of the Many Industries Throughout Our Thriving Commonwealth—Latest Market Report.

A good quality of gas was struck in the oil well being drilled near Ontario.

The next session of the legislature will be asked to divide Umatilla county.

A movement is on foot to have some of the star mail routes in Baker county changed.

Malheur and Harney county wool growers have organized and will hereafter pool their clips.

Salem shoe merchants will follow the grocers in closing their stores at 6:30 P. M., except Saturdays.

Three car loads of dressed turkeys were shipped from Douglas county to San Francisco for Thanksgiving.

A rich body of gold ore has been discovered in the Water Gulch district, 25 miles east of Grants Pass.

Southern Oregon placer miners are jubilant over the recent heavy rains, which will raise the creeks enough to allow operations to be resumed.

Articles of incorporation of the Douglas County Bank, located at Roseburg, have been filed with the secretary of state. Capital, \$350,000.

The Olive Creek Placer Mines Co., with headquarters at Sumpter, has filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state. Capital, \$1,000,000.

Crater lake, in which it has long been conceded that fish could not live, has been found to contain fish of the cold water trout species. Some of them have attained the length of 30 inches.

The rush for public lands in Umatilla county were never so numerous as this year.

Another oil company has been organized to operate in the Malheur county district.

Portland capitalists are figuring on leasing the Weston water works and electric light plant.

A four-foot vein of rich gold bearing quartz has been uncovered in the Baker mining district.

The Coburg lumber mill has installed an electric light plant and will run day and night.

A vein of coal has been discovered near Huntington which promises to develop into a very fair quality.